

REMARKS

Claim Status

Claims 3-14, 21-26 and 29-30 are cancelled in view of the pending restriction requirement. Cancellation of these claims is made without prejudice to pursuing the subject matter thereof in one or more future divisional applications.

Method claims 27 and 28 are withdrawn in view of the pending restriction requirement. Applicants will seek to rejoin these claims with those composition claims deemed allowable in the forthcoming examination proceedings.

Claim 31 is new and supported by original claims 1 and 2, as well as the specification (e.g. Table 4, page 8).

Claims 1, 2 and 15-17 are currently amended. Claims 1, 2 and 15 are amended partly in view of the pending restriction requirement to delete unelected subject matter. Applicants reserve the right to pursue claim coverage for this subject matter in one or more future divisional applications. Claims 1 and 2 are amended in part to recite that the composition contains the peptide in an isolated state. Skilled artisans would recognize ample support throughout the specification for this amendment. Certain amendments to claims 2, 15, 16 and 17 are made for clarification purposes or to correct typographical errors.

Applicants respectfully submit that the foregoing amendments to the claims do not introduce any new subject matter to the application. With the present amendments, there are nine claims pending for examination, namely claims 1, 2, 15-20 and 31.

Restriction Requirement

Examiner alleges that the instant application claims one-hundred and eight different inventive groups and therefore issues a restriction requirement. These inventive groups as listed in the Office Action are summarized as follows:

Inventions 1-36: A composition comprising one of SEQ ID NO:1-36 (not listed in respective order).

Inventions 37-72: A method of treating or preventing a flavivirus infection comprising administering a composition comprising one of SEQ ID NO:1-36, respectively.

Inventions 73-108: An antibody that binds a peptide comprising one of SEQ ID NO:1-36, respectively.

Without traverse, Applicants elect inventive group 21, which is related to pharmaceutical compositions comprising the Dengue virus-derived peptide SEQ ID NO:30. Claims 1, 2, 15-20 and 31, as currently pending, read on inventive group 21.

The method claims pertaining to alleged inventive group 64 (original claims 27 and 28) are currently withdrawn. However, since these claims incorporate the elected subject matter, Applicants respectfully submit that they should be considered for rejoinder upon allowance of the pending composition claims.

The above remarks notwithstanding, Applicants reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications to protect non-elected inventions.

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Besides the fee for requesting a two-month extension of time for responding to the current action, no other fee is believed to be due in relation to filing this document. However,

the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct any underpayment of fees from Howrey LLP
Deposit Account 08-3038/12920.0014.PCUS00.

Respectfully submitted,



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